

Appln. No. 09/752,037

Amendment dated April 20, 2004

Reply to Office Action mailed January 20, 2004

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims (deleted text being struck through and added text being underlined):

- B1
- 1 1. (Original) A method of handling a call from a caller to a
2 communication device, the method comprising:
3 receiving the call;
4 determining if the communication device is in a privacy mode; and
5 if the communication device is in the privacy mode, completing the
6 call if a privacy mode code is entered by the caller.
- 1 2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising if the
2 communication device is in the privacy mode, routing the call to a message
3 system if no privacy mode code is entered by the caller.
- 1 3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the privacy mode code
2 is selected by a user of the communication device.
- 1 4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the communication
2 device is one of: a cellular telephone and a personal digital assistant.
- 1 5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the method is
2 performed by one of: a base station and a switch.
- 1 6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5 1, further comprising
2 the step of receiving a request from the communication device to place the
3 communication device in the privacy mode.
- Passport
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1 7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the request further
2 comprises:

3 a privacy mode message selected by a user of the communication
4 device and adapted to be provided to the caller prior to completing
5 the call; and

6 the privacy mode code selected by the user of the communication
7 device.

1 8. (Original) The method of claim 6, further comprising the step of
2 receiving a request from the communication device to place the
3 communication device out of the privacy mode.

1 9. (Original) A method of handling a call from a caller to a
2 communication device, the method comprising:
3 receiving the call;
4 determining if the communication device is in a privacy mode; and
5 if the communication device is in the privacy mode, providing a
6 privacy mode message including a selected privacy override code to
7 the caller.

1 10. (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising if the
2 communication device is in the privacy mode, completing the call if the
3 selected privacy override code is entered by the caller.

1 11. (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising if the
2 communication device is in the privacy mode, routing the call to a message
3 system if no selected privacy override code is entered by the caller.

1 12. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the privacy mode
2 message is selected from a group of prerecorded messages.

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1 13. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the privacy mode
2 message is recorded by a user of the communication device.

1 14. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the privacy override
2 code is selected by a user of the communication device.

1 15. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the communication
2 device is a cellular telephone or a personal digital assistant.

1 16. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the method is
2 performed by a base station or a switch.

1 17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~16~~ 9, further
2 comprising the step of receiving a request from the communication device to
3 place the communication device in the privacy mode.

1 18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the request further
2 comprises:
3 the privacy mode message selected by a user of the communication
4 device and adapted to be provided to the caller upon receiving the call; and
5 the privacy override code selected by the user of the communication
6 device.

1 19. (Original) The method of claim 17, further comprising the step of
2 receiving a request from the communication device to place the
3 communication device out of the privacy mode.

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1 20. (Original) A computer readable medium having instructions for
2 causing a computer to perform a method of handling a call from a caller to a
3 communication device, the method comprising:

4 receiving the call;

5 determining if the communication device is in a privacy mode; and

6 if the communication device is in the privacy mode, completing the

7 call if a predetermined code is entered by the caller.

1 21. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 20, further
2 comprising if the communication device is in the privacy mode, routing the
3 call to a message system if no predetermined code is entered by the caller.

1 22. (Original) A computer readable medium having instructions for
2 causing a computer to perform a method of handling a call from a caller to a
3 communication device, the method comprising:

4 receiving the call;

5 determining if the communication device is in a privacy mode; and

6 if the communication device is in the privacy mode, providing a

7 privacy mode message including a selected privacy override code to

8 the caller.

1 23. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 22, further
2 comprising if the communication device is in the privacy mode, completing
3 the call if the privacy override code is entered by the caller.

1 24. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 22, further
2 comprising if the communication device is in the privacy mode, routing the
3 call to a message system if no privacy override code is entered by the
4 caller.

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1 25. (Original) A system for handling a call from a caller to a user of
2 a communication device, the system comprising:
3 a data entry device capable of receiving input to cause the
4 communication device to enter a privacy mode;
5 a memory capable of storing a privacy mode message, the privacy
6 mode message adapted to be provided to the caller prior to
7 completing the call to the user; and
8 a receiver capable of completing the call to the user if a privacy mode
9 code is entered by the caller.

1 26. (Original) The system of claim 25, further wherein the receiver is
2 capable of routing the call to a message system if no privacy mode code is
3 entered by the caller.

1 27. (Original) The system of claim 25, wherein the data entry device
2 is a telephone keypad.

1 28. (Original) ~~The system of claim 25, wherein the privacy mode~~
2 code comprises at least one keystroke from the data entry device.

1 29. (Original) The system of claim 25, wherein the privacy mode
2 code is selected by the user of the communication device.

1 30. (Original) The system of claim 25, wherein the communication
2 device is one of: a cellular telephone and a personal digital assistant.

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1 31. (Original) A system for handling a call from a caller to a user of
2 a communication device, the system comprising:
3 a data entry device capable of receiving input to cause the
4 communication device to enter a privacy mode; and
5 a memory capable of providing a privacy mode message including a
6 selected privacy override code to the caller prior to completing the
7 call to the user.

13 1 32. (Original) The system of claim 31, further comprising a receiver
2 capable of completing the call to the user if the selected privacy override
3 code is entered by the caller.

1 33. (Original) The system of claim 32, further wherein the receiver is
2 capable of routing the call to a message system if no selected privacy
3 override code is entered by the caller.

1 34. (Original) The system of claim 31, wherein the selected privacy
2 override code is provided by the user of the communication device.

1 35. (Original) A system for handling a call from a caller to a user of
2 a communication device, the system comprising:
3 a data entry device capable of receiving input to cause the
4 communication device to enter a privacy mode; and
5 a receiver capable of receiving the call to the communication device
6 and completing the call to the user only if an interrupt is received
7 from the caller.

1 36. (Original) The system of claim 35, wherein the interrupt is a
2 privacy mode code entered by the caller.

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1 37. (Original) A system for handling a call from a caller to a user of
2 a communication device, the system comprising:
3 a receiver capable of receiving the call and a privacy mode code
4 entered by the caller;
5 a memory capable of storing a status indicating if the communication
6 device is in a privacy mode; and
7 a transmitter capable of completing the call to the user if the
8 communication device is in the privacy mode and the privacy mode
9 code is entered by the caller.

1 38. (Original) The system of claim 37, wherein the memory is further
2 capable of storing a message from the caller if the communication device is
3 in the privacy mode and no privacy mode code is entered by the caller.

1 39. (Original) The system of claim 37, wherein the memory is further
2 capable of storing a privacy mode message adapted to be provided to the
3 caller prior to completing the call to the user.

1 40. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 37, wherein the
2 receiver is further capable of receiving a request from the communication
3 device to place the communication device in the privacy mode.

1 41. (Original) The system of claim 40, wherein the request further
2 comprises:
3 a privacy mode message selected by a user of the communication
4 device and adapted to be provided to the caller prior to completing
5 the call to the user; and
6 the privacy mode code selected by the user of the communication
7 device.

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1 42. (Original) The method of claim 40, wherein the receiver is
2 further capable of receiving a request from the communication device to
3 place the communication device out of the privacy mode.

1 43. (Original) The system of claim 37, wherein the communication
2 device is one of: a cellular telephone and a personal digital assistant.

3 44. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 additionally
4 comprising, if the communication device is in the privacy mode, passing the
5 call to a voice messaging system if the privacy mode code is not entered by
the caller, the voice messaging system being capable of recording a message
spoken by the caller making the call.

1 45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 additionally
2 comprising, if the communication device is in the privacy mode, blocking
3 completion of the call until the privacy mode code is entered.

1 46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 additionally
2 comprising, if the communication device is in the privacy mode, preventing
3 the communication device from producing an incoming call signal if the
4 privacy mode code is not entered by the caller.

1 47. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 additionally
2 comprising, if the communication device is in the privacy mode, preventing
3 the communication device from producing an incoming call signal for all
4 calls for which the caller does not enter the privacy mode code.

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1 48. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 additionally
2 comprising, if the communication device is in the privacy mode, requiring
3 entry of the privacy mode code by the caller before the communication
4 device produces an incoming call signal.

1 49. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 additionally
2 comprising establishing for the communications device a normal mode of
3 operation and the privacy mode of operation.

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1 50. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49 wherein the
2 normal mode of operation is characterized by producing an incoming call
3 signal upon receipt of the call, and the privacy mode is characterized by
4 producing the incoming call signal only if the caller has entered the privacy
5 mode code.

Please add the following new claims:

1 51. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising, if the
2 communication device is in the privacy mode, announcing the privacy mode
3 code to the caller.

1 52. (New) The method of claim 9, wherein the step of providing a
2 privacy mode message including a selected privacy override code to the
3 caller further comprises announcing the privacy code to the caller.

1 53. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step
2 of receiving a spoken command from a user of the communication
3 device to place the communication device in the privacy mode.

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- 1 54. (New) The method of claim 1 additionally comprising, if the
2 communication device is in the privacy mode, preventing the communication
3 device from producing an incoming call signal if the privacy mode code is
4 not entered by the caller while providing information regarding the
5 incoming call through a display on the communication device.
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